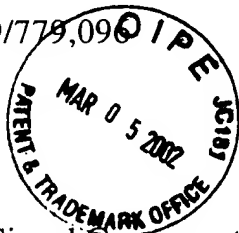


#6/ELECTION
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

3-22-02
PATENT Mollish

Application No.: 09/779,096) Date: February 25, 2002
Applicant: LIN et al.) Examiner: Ori Nadav
Filed: 02/08/2001) Group Art Unit 2651
For: "Tracking Error Signal Compensation) Our Ref: B-4101
Circuit ...") (618582-4/RPB:TGC)



Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated January 2, 2002. A petition for a one-month extension of time to respond is attached, along with a check for the fee therefor. Please add the following new claims:

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✓
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34. (New) An electrostatic discharge protection circuit coupled between a first node and a second node, comprising:
a substrate of a first conductive type;
a first doped region and a second doped region of a second conductive type formed in the substrate, the first and second doped regions being spaced apart enabling a channel region formed in between;
a well region of the second conductive type, formed in the substrate; and
a third doped region of the first conductive type, electrically floated in the well region, wherein the first node is electrically coupled to the first doped region and the second node is electrically coupled to the second doped region.

35. (New) The electrostatic discharge protection circuit as claimed in claim 34, wherein the first node is coupled to the first doped region through the well region.

36. (New) The electrostatic discharge protection circuit as claimed in claim 34, wherein the first node is coupled to the well region through the first doped region.

37. (New) The electrostatic discharge protection circuit as claimed in claim 34, wherein the well region forms a resistor element.

A1 38. (New) The electrostatic discharge protection circuit as claimed in claim 34, wherein the third doped region is coupled to the first node through a capacitor.

In the Office Action, the Examiner sets forth a restriction/election requirement, asserting that the seven embodiments illustrated in the figures correspond to seven different species.

The Applicant hereby provisionally elects the first embodiment (corresponding to Figs. 3A, 3B and 12A) for prosecution in this Application. The claims corresponding to the elected embodiment are original claims 1-4, 8-10, 13-17, 19, 26, 29, and 31-33. The Applicants also add a generic, independent claim 34 and dependent claims 35-38.

It is noted that the United States Patent Law does not require that Examiners enter non-unity objections, and therefore the Examiner is requested to reconsider the non-unity objection in view of the fact that the Figures, while distinct, are sufficiently related that it would not be an undue burden upon the Examiner to examiner both figures in a single application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account No. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C., 20231 on February 25, 2002

(Date of Deposit)

Richard P. Berg

(Name of Person Signing)

(Signature)

(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



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